



PATENT APPLICATION

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Keiji OTAKI et al.

Group Art Unit: 1772

Application No.: 10/520,663

Examiner: B. O'HERN

Filed: February 3, 2005

Docket No.: 122381

For: MAT-SHAPED INORGANIC FIBER THERMAL INSULATOR, PACKAGE  
THEREOF AND THERMAL INSULATION STRUCTURE THEREOF

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

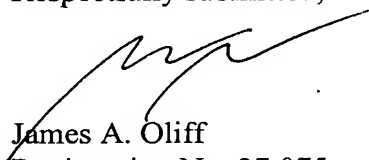
In reply to the April 24, 2006 Restriction Requirement, the period for reply extended by the attached Petition for Extension of Time, Applicants provisionally elect Group I, claims 1-7 and 9-16. This election is made with traverse.

It is also respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all claims is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one Group of claims would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining claim. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which is stated that "If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions." (Emphasis added). It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application to

avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicants and duplicative examination by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-16 can be examined without undue burden on the Examiner. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the Restriction Requirement be withdrawn.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:SMS/sxb

Attachment:  
Petition for Extension of Time

Date: August 24, 2006

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